

independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the September 12, 2000 Office Action, Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. As pointed out in the March 12, 2001 Amendment After Final Rejection, Applicants believe the rejection to be improper for the reasons given therein, and Applicants again point out that the rejection is improper for the same reasons. However, in an effort to advance prosecution of the application, Applicants have amended each of independent Claims 5, 7, 9, 15, 17, 19 and 21 to provide even further clarification of the claimed detector. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdrawal the § 112 rejection.

The September 12, 2000 Office Action also rejected Claims 23, 28 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,855,006 (Huemoeller), and rejected Claims 5, 15 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Huemoeller in view of U.S. Patent 6,073,062 (Hoshino), and Claims 7, 9, 17, 19, 22, 24 to 27 and 29 to 31 under § 103(a) over Huemoeller in view of Hoshino and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,016,478 (Zhang). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Amended independent Claim 5 is an information processing apparatus comprising a detector that detects, based on a user's schedule, that the user is about to depart from being present at the information processing apparatus, a search unit that searches for a pending task to be performed by the user within a predetermined timeframe when the detector detects that the user is scheduled to depart, and a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task to be performed within the predetermined timeframe when the pending task is found by the search unit.

Amended independent Claims 15 and 21 are method and computer-readable medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 5.

Amended independent Claim 7 is an information processing apparatus comprising a detector that detects, based on a user's schedule, that the user is scheduled to depart from being present at the information processing apparatus and a destination of the user, a search unit that searches for a pending task relevant to the destination of the user when the detector detects that the user is scheduled to depart, and a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task relevant to the destination of the user.

Amended independent Claim 17 is a method claim substantially corresponding to Claim 7.

Amended independent Claim 9 is an information processing apparatus comprising a detector that detects, based on a user's schedule, that the user is scheduled to depart from being present at the information processing apparatus and a person with whom the user is scheduled to meet, a search unit that searches for a pending task relevant to the person with whom the user is scheduled to meet when the detector detects that the user is scheduled to depart, and a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task relevant to the person with whom the user is scheduled to meet.

Amended independent Claim 19 is a method claim substantially corresponding to Claim 9.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the foregoing features of independent Claims 5, 7, 9, 15, 17, 19 and 21. In particular, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of detecting, based on a user's schedule, that the user is scheduled to depart from being present at an information processing apparatus and notifying the user of a pending task after detecting that the user is scheduled to depart.

Huemoeller is seen to disclose a system wherein when a user designates a certain day for travel to obtain information regarding available flights or hotels, trivia

data indicating events that generally take place on the designated day in prior years, and a coupon for the day are also provided (col. 2, line 12 to col. 3, line 20). However, Huemoeller is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of detecting, based on a user's schedule, that the user is scheduled to depart from being present at an information processing apparatus and notifying the user of a pending task after detecting that the user is scheduled to depart.

Hoshino is seen to disclose detecting a current position utilizing a global positioning system (GPS) receiver, measuring a speed and a distance with a vehicle speed sensor, and providing a notification if an estimated arrival time is different from an actual arrival time (col. 11, lines 15 to 28 and col. 21, lines 26 to 40). However, the GPS receiver and vehicle speed sensor in Hoshino does not detect, based on a user's schedule, if the user is scheduled to depart from being present at an information processing apparatus and notify the user of a pending task after detecting that the user is scheduled to depart.

Zhang is seen to disclose a system for automatically inviting participants to an event, placing an event in a calendar, making a reservation for the event, maintaining the calendar for the facilities, confirming or

denying bookings based on the calendar, making a reminder message in advance of the event such as "three hours before" so that the user will not forget the event, and converting a time relative to a time zone for the user as a recipient. Zhang, however, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of detecting, based on a user's schedule, that the user is scheduled to depart from being present at an information processing apparatus and notifying the user of a pending task after detecting that the user is scheduled to depart.

Therefore, amended Claims 5, 7, 9, 15, 17, 19 and 21 are believed to be allowable over any permissible combination of Huemoeller, Hoshino and Zhang.

As for independent Claims 23, 28 and 32, Applicants maintain that the applied art fails to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of searching a storage medium for a pending undertaking relevant to an added new undertaking and notifying a user of the pending undertaking relevant to the added new undertaking.

Again, Huemoeller is merely seen to detect past events on a given day and to provide a listing of those events and a coupon. Huemoeller is not seen to disclose or to suggest searching of a storage medium for a pending undertaking relevant to an added new undertaking and

notifying a user of the pending undertaking relevant to the added new undertaking.

Hoshino and Zhang are also not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of searching of a storage medium for a pending undertaking relevant to an added new undertaking and notifying a user of the pending undertaking relevant to the added new undertaking.

Accordingly, independent Claims 23, 28 and 32 are also believed to be allowable over the applied art.

As a formal matter, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to an apparent error in the Form PTO-892 included with the September 12, 2000 Office Action. In particular, the document F listed on page 1 of the PTO-892 appears to list an incorrect document number. Applicant's believe that the document F is a duplicate listing of the document B on page 1, but that the duplicate listing at F contains a typographical error in the document number. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner clarify the foregoing and that an updated Form PTO-892 be provided to Applicants with the next communication.

No other matters having been raised, and in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action

is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 22549 v2

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

5. (Three Times Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a detector that detects, based on a user's schedule, that [a] the user is [about] scheduled to depart from being present at the information processing apparatus [leave his seat];

a search unit that searches for a pending task to be performed by the user within a predetermined timeframe when said detector detects that the user is [about] scheduled to depart [leave his seat]; and

a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task to be performed within the predetermined timeframe when the pending task is found by said search unit.

7. (Three Times Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a detector that detects, based on a user's schedule, that [a] the user is scheduled [about] to [leave his seat] depart from being present at the information processing apparatus and a destination of the user [from a schedule of the user];

a search unit that searches for a pending task relevant

to the destination of the user when said detector detects that the user is about to depart [leave his seat]; and

a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task relevant to the destination of the user.

9. (Three Times Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a detector that detects, based on a user's schedule, that [a] the user is [about] scheduled to [leave his seat] depart from being present at the information processing apparatus and a person with whom the user is [going] scheduled to meet;

a search unit that searches for a pending task relevant to the person with whom the user is [going] scheduled to meet when said detector detects that the user is [about] scheduled to [leave his seat] depart; and

a notifier that notifies the user of the pending task relevant to the person with whom the user is [going] scheduled to meet.

15. (Three Times Amended) An information processing method comprising the steps of:

a detection step of detecting, based on a user's schedule, that [a] the user is [about] scheduled to [leave his

seat] depart from being present at an information processing apparatus;

a searching step of searching for a pending task to be performed by the user within a predetermined timeframe when said detecting step detects that the user is [about] scheduled to depart [leave his seat]; and

a notification step of notifying the user of the pending task to be performed within the predetermined time when the pending task is found in said searching step.

17. (Three Times Amended) An information processing method comprising the steps of:

a detecting step of detecting, based on a user's schedule, that [a] the user is [about] scheduled to [leave his seat] depart from being present at an information processing apparatus and a destination of the user [from a schedule of the user];

a searching step of searching for a pending task relevant to the destination of the user when said detecting step detects that the user is [about] scheduled to depart [leave his seat]; and

a notification step of notifying the user of the pending task relevant to the destination of the user.

19. (Three Times Amended) An information processing method comprising the steps of:

a detecting step of detecting, based on a user's schedule, that [a] the user is [about] scheduled to [leave his seat] depart from being present at an information processing apparatus and a person with whom the user is [going] scheduled to meet;

a searching step of searching for a pending task relevant to the person with whom the user is [going] scheduled to meet when said detecting step detects that the user is [about] scheduled to depart [leave his seat]; and

a notification step of notifying the user of the pending task relevant to the person with whom the user is [going] scheduled to meet.

21. (Three Times Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for controlling a computer, the program comprising the steps of:

a detection step of detecting, based on a user's schedule, that [a] the user is [about] scheduled to [leave his seat] depart from being present at an information processing apparatus;

a searching step of searching for a pending task to be

performed by the user within a predetermined timeframe when said detecting step detects that the user is [about] scheduled to depart [leave his seat]; and

a notification step of notifying the user of the pending task to be performed within the predetermined timeframe when the pending task is found in said searching step.

CA_MAIN 22551 v 1